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Docket No.: 211712US0X

MAY 27 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

OBLON
SPIVAK
McCLELLAND
MAIER
&
NEUSTADT
P.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

RE: Application Serial No.: 09/919,935

Applicants: Brigitte BATHE, et al.

Filing Date: August 2, 2001

For: NUCLEOTIDE SEQUENCES WHICH CODE FOR
THE METF GENE

Group Art Unit: 1652

Examiner: HUTSON, R.

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

Response to Requirement for Restriction (4 pp.); List of Related Cases; Information Disclosure Statement; Cited Pending Applications (2)

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Th. A. Blinka

Norman F. Oblon

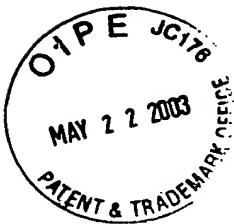
Registration No. 24,618



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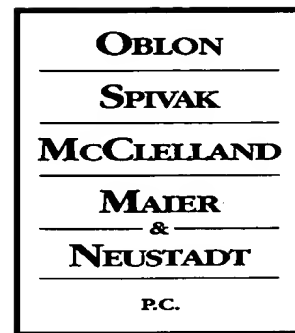
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Registration No. 44,541



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
BRIGITTE BATHE, ET AL. : EXAMINER: HUTSON, R.
SERIAL NO: 09/919,935 :
FILED: AUGUST 2, 2001 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1652
FOR: NUCLEOTIDE SEQUENCES :
WHICH CODE FOR THE METF
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RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Official Action of April 22, 2003, Applicants elect, with traverse, Group I, Claims 1-6 and 8, drawn to an isolated polynucleotide which encodes a protein (SEQ ID NO:2), and host cells comprising said polynucleotide.

REMARKS

The Office has required restriction in the present application as follows:

- Group I: Claims 1-6 and 8, drawn to an isolate polynucleotide which encodes a protein (SEQ ID NO:2), and host cells comprising said polynucleotide;
- Group II: Claim 7, drawn to a coryneform bacterium;
- Group III: Claims 9-30, drawn to a method of production of an L-amino acid;
- Group IV: Claims 31 and 32, drawn to an animal feedstuff; and
- Group V: Claim 33, drawn to a method of obtaining a cDNA or RNA.